IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

DANA C. BOOKBINDER, et al.

Examiner: TBA

Serial No:

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed:

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS REDUCING METAL IMPURITIES IN OPTICAL FIBER

SOOT PREFORMS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT **UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 – 1.98**

Commissioner of Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the following reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. One copy of the reference(s) is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the enclosed documents constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the submitted documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant(s) reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant(s) further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner Alexandria, 22313-1450

Date of Deposit

Randall S. Wayland

Name of applicant, assignee, of Registered Representativ

Date of Signature

SERIAL NO. FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED) ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. LIST OF PATENTS AND SP02-217 **PUBLICATIONS** FOR APPLICANTS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT APPLICANT: DANA C. BOOKBINDER, et al. FILING DATE **GROUP: TBA** REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date Document Number Class if Approp. Examiner Date Name Sub-Initial Class 3,938,974 65 AA Macedo et al. 3 R 2/17/76 AB4,629,485 Berkey 65 3.11 12/16/86 AC 4,910,009 Sommers 423 492 3/20/90 4,979,971 65 AD Kyoto et al. 3.12 12/25/90 AE 6,319,550 427 215 Campion et al. 11/20/01 AF 2002/0044334 Battilana et al. 359 333 4/18/02 AG AH ΑI AJ **AK** FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Number Sub-Date Country Class Translation Class Yes No AL0 331 483 Europe C03C 1/00 5/12/93 0 765 845 AM 4/2/97 Europe C03B 37/014 X AN AO AP AQ OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) Encyclopedia of Chemical Technology, Fourth Edition, A Wiley-Interscience AR Publication, Molecular Sieves, Vol. 16, pps. 888-925. Schultz, "Optical Absorption of the Transition Elements in vitreous Silica", Journal of AS The American Ceramic Society", Vol. 57, No. 7, pps. 309-312. AT AU AV AW **EXAMINER:** DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.